

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete, marked up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parentheses, underlined text indicating insertions, and strikethrough and/or double-bracketed text indicating deletions.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

receiving, at a first network controller operating according to a first radio technology, a message relay request from a mobile station for which the first network controller is handling a packet switched call, the message relay request including a network controller identifier identifying a second network controller operating according to a second radio technology capable of receiving a signal from the mobile station and the message relay request including an origination message for originating a call at the second network controller operating according to the second radio technology, and the second radio technology being different from the first radio technology;

forming, at the first network controller operating according to a first radio technology, a relay message to include the origination message as an embedded message for conveying a switch in radio technology; and

sending, by the first network controller operating according to a first radio technology, the relay message over a tunneling medium to the second network controller operating according to the second radio technology.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the message relay request includes an identifier identifying the message relay request as the message relay request.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the forming step further includes in the relay message an identifier of a packet data serving node handling the packet switched call of the mobile station.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a second relay message, from the second network controller,
including a channel assignment message, the channel assignment message
indicating a channel assigned to the mobile station for communicating with the
second network controller; and
sending a message relay response to the mobile station that includes the
channel assignment message.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the embedded message is a
handoff request requesting handoff of the mobile station to the second radio
technology.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the embedded
message is a transition message requesting transition of the packet switched call
for the mobile station handled by the first radio technology to a call for the mobile
station handled by the second radio technology.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the transition
message requests transition of the packet switched call for the mobile station
handled by the first radio technology to another packet switched call for the mobile
station handled by the second radio technology.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the transition message
requests transition of the packet switched call for the mobile station handled by the
first radio technology to a circuit switched call for the mobile station handled by the
second radio technology.

11. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:
receiving a relay message including an origination message as an embedded
message for conveying a switch in radio technology from a first network controller
operating according to a first radio technology at a second network controller
operating according to a different, second radio technology, and capable of receiving
a signal from the mobile station, the relay message (i) including a transition
message indicating to transition a packet switched call for a mobile station handled
by the first network controller operating according to the first radio technology to a

call for the mobile station handled by the second network controller operating according to the second radio technology, (ii) being sent over a tunneling medium between the first network controller operating according to the first radio technology and the second network controller operating according to the second radio technology, and (iii) being based on a message relay received the first network controller operating according to the first radio technology, the message relay request including the origination message and a network controller identifier identifying the second network controller operating according to the second radio technology.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the transition message is an origination message for originating a call with the second network controller.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the relay message further includes an identifier of a packet data serving node handling the packet switched call of the mobile station.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising:
establishing a signaling relationship with the identified packet data serving node such that the second network controller receives packetized traffic destined for the mobile station.

15. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the transition message is a handoff request requesting handoff of the mobile station to the second network controller.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising:
sending a second relay message including a channel assignment message to the first network controller, the channel assignment message indicating a channel assigned to the mobile station for communicating with the second network controller.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the transition message is for transitioning the packet switched call handled by the first network

controller to another packet switched call handled by the second network controller.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the transition message is for transitioning the packet switched call handled by the first network controller to a circuit switched call handled by the second network controller.

19. (Previously Presented) A method of communication between wireless elements and a wireless unit, the method comprising:

sending to a wireless unit at least one message identifying (i) wireless elements in use by a wireless unit and (ii) wireless elements available to the wireless unit for each of a plurality of network types;

receiving a selection of at least one selected wireless element from the wireless unit, the at least one message sent to the wireless unit includes an indicator of whether the wireless element in use by the wireless unit can relay messages to the at least one selected wireless element; and

communicating, by the wireless unit to a current wireless element, in use by the wireless unit, the selection of the at least one selected wireless element to subsequently relay messages.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the at least one message includes at least one of an identifier of a network type of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit, and an indicator of whether the wireless element in use by the wireless unit can relay messages to the at least one selected wireless element.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the at least one message includes network configuration parameters to identify at least one of the plurality of network types of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the message identifies at least of the plurality of one network types of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the at least one message includes parameters with which the wireless unit may select one of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the current wireless element at least one of, (i) relays messages to and (ii) relays messages from the at least one selected wireless element from the wireless unit.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, whereupon (i) a selection of one of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit by the wireless unit and (ii) confirmation by the current wireless element, the current wireless element at least one of,
relays messages to the selected wireless element from the wireless unit, and
relays messages from the selected wireless element to the wireless unit.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein a message identifying the at least one selected wireless element indicates that at least one of subsequent messages to and subsequent messages from the wireless unit are to be relayed by the current wireless element.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein at least one of (i) each message to be relayed to and (ii) each message to be relayed from the wireless unit by the current wireless element identifies the at least one selected wireless element to which the each message is to be relayed.

29. (Previously Presented) A method of communication between wireless elements and a wireless unit, the method comprising:

receiving, by a wireless unit, at least one message identifying (i) wireless elements in use by a wireless unit and (ii) wireless elements available to the wireless unit for each of a plurality of network types;

selecting, by a wireless unit, at least one selected wireless element for possible future service based on the at least one message, the at least one message includes an indicator of whether the wireless elements in use by the wireless unit can relay messages to at least one selected wireless element; and

communicating, by the wireless unit to a current wireless element, in use by the wireless unit, the selection of the at least one selected wireless element to subsequently relay messages.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the at least one message includes at least one of an identifier of a network type of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit, and an indicator of whether the wireless element in use by the wireless unit can relay messages to the at least one selected wireless element.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the at least one message includes network configuration parameters to identify at least one of the plurality of network types of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the message identifies at least one of the plurality of one network types of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the at least one message includes parameters with which the wireless unit may select one of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the wireless unit selects one of the wireless elements for service based on the at least one message and a preferred roaming list.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the current wireless element at least one of, (i) relays messages to and (ii) relays messages from the at least one selected wireless element from the wireless unit.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, whereupon (i) a selection of one of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit by the wireless unit and (ii) confirmation by the current wireless element, the current wireless element at least one of,

relays messages to the selected wireless element from the wireless unit, and

relays messages from the selected wireless element to the wireless unit.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein a message identifying the at least one selected wireless element indicates that at least one of subsequent messages to and subsequent messages from the wireless unit are to be relayed by the current wireless element.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein at least one of (i) each message to be relayed to and (ii) each message to be relayed from the wireless unit by the current wireless element identifies the at least one selected wireless element to which the each message is to be relayed.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, further comprising:
prior to selecting, requesting additional information on the wireless elements available to the wireless unit from a current wireless element.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein upon receiving the relay message, the second network controller performs a registration process with a mobile switching center of the second radio technology.